Deduction of Rs. 1000/- from Death-cum-Retirement Gratuity of a retired employee and family of deceased

903. SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleas ed to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a sum of Rs. 1000/- is retained while making the payment of Death-cum-Re-tirement Gratuity to the retired employee/family of deceased employee;

(b) if so, on which date this limit of Rs. 1000/- was fixed by Government; and

(c) what are the circumstances under which the said limit has hot been enhanced so far in view of the revision of pay scales and the rates of licence fee for Government accommodation?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) The rule provide for withholding of 10% of retirement gratuity/death gratuity of Rs. 1000/-, whichever is less, pending assessment of Government dues.

(b) This limit has been in existence since the promulgation of the CCS. (Pension) Rules, 1972 in the year 1972.

(c) So far no general need for en-hancing this limit has been felt by Government.

Quota for SC/ST for employment in private and Government establishments

904. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to fix quota for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for employment in private and Government aided esta-blishments; and

(b) if so, the details of steps being taken in the matter?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (b) Various instructions issued by the Department of Personnel and Training regarding reservation for SC/ST are not applicable to private establishments. Autonomous bodies, institutions, voluntary agencies etc. which receive financial assistance from Government in the form of Grants in Aid are required to pro-Vide for reservation for SC/ST by making suitable provision in the relevant statutes or in the Articles of Association of the respective bodies.

Vacant post of the Vice-Chairman of U.G.C.

905. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleas ed to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post of Vice-Chairman of the University Grants Commission has been lying vacant for quite some time; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the delay in filling up the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE .MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDU-CATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOP-MENT (PROF M. G. K. MENON) (a) and (b) The post of Vice-Chair man, U.G.C. has been lying vacan since 12th June, 1989. The Govern ment has recently constituted a Search Committee to suggest a panel of names for filling up the post.

Social forestry in States during Seventh Five Year Plan

906. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleas ed to State

(a) what were the targets for social forestry in different state for the Seventh Five Year Plan period